

Jourdan Perla
5236 Glide Dr
Davis CA 95618

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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

For years I was using AT&T DSL service in my home in Davis, CA. I'm near the edge of town, but hardly in the middle of nowhere. There's a elementary school on the other side of my fence, and a country club with million dollar homes not even a quarter mile south of me. It worked okay for a while, though with much slower speeds than I'd like, even after upgrading my service to the next tier. And then after a few years, my connection quality dropped. I would have to reboot my router daily, if not more often than that. Calls to AT&T customer service were met with "That's just your location. Nothing we can do." But unless I wanted to switch to dial-up or an even more expensive cable service, I had no alternative but to live with it.

Then I found out about Sonic.Net, a small ISP out of Santa Rosa that was expanding into my area. I switched over to them in order to get away from AT&T's horrible customer service. In the same location, with the same hardware, the same modem, still using AT&T for voice service, and a equivalent "tier" of service, my connection instantly improved. Better speed and better quality across the board. Two years later, they were able to upgrade my connection to an even better service which allowed me to bundle phone and internet, and completely drop AT&T. I'm now paying half the price of my old AT&T contract for twice the speed. The customer service is incredible, though I've only had to contact them twice in the 5 years I've had their service. They're proactive about notifying me about possible issues in service. I recommend them every chance I get.

None of this would have been possible if Sonic had not been able to "piggyback" off the AT&T service. They would have not been able to expand and compete with AT&T. I'd still be stuck with service that got worse year after year, while my fees went up.

And I'm not in a tiny rural town. I'm in a college town. University of California, Davis. We have an population of about 65,000, with another 10 thousand or so students coming and going. Students with laptops and Netflix accounts and online games and all the other bandwidth heavy things of modern life. We've And even with that draw AT&T is still dragging it's heels on providing better service and infrastructure.

We need the sharing requirements to keep the market competitive. The US lags behind the world in

terms of broadband penetration and speed. There are still a lot of areas that don't have a choice beyond the major carriers. Removing the sharing requirements would create a monopoly in all but name for the major networks, and would competition and improvements would grind to a halt.

Please deny the US Telecom forbearance request. We still need that protection.

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